

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6406
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
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USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03913

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SOVIET/GDR PROTESTS AT INTER-
PARLIAMENTARY UNION MEETING IN LISBON

REFS: (A) USBER 472 (NOTAL)
(B) STATE 51858
(C) 77 BONN 15250 (NOTAL)
(D) 77 STATE 223227 (NOTAL)
(E) NILES/BARKLEY MEMORANDUM, OCTOBER 5, 1977

1. THE BONN GROUP AGREED ON MARCH 1 TO AN FRG
RECOMMENDATION THAT THE DELEGATIONS AT THE IPU MEETING
IN LISBON FOLLOW THE SAME PROCEDURE THAT THE FOREIGN
OFFICE PROPOSED LAST YEAR, I.E. TO STATE THAT THE IPU
STATUTES ALLOW EACH DELEGATION TO SELECT ITS OWN
DELEGATES (REFS C AND D) AND NOT ENGAGE IN A DISCUSSION
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OF THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE BERLIN MEMBERS OF THE FRG
DELEGATION, THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, ETC.

2. WE ARE SURPRISED AT AMREHN'S COMMENTS (REF A) ON THE
SUPPORT RENDERED BY THE US DELEGATION IN SOFIA. THE
FOREIGN OFFICE WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY
THE US. WE NOTE ALSO THAT SENATOR STAFFORD AND MR. NILES

OF IO/UNP MET WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GDR GROUP ON SEPTEMBER 28 TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES THAT THE TYPE OF PROBLEMS WHICH WERE CREATED AT SOFIA WOULD NOT ARISE WHEN GGEQYZOZUCPPMRSADBERLIN IN 1980 (REF E). THE FOREIGN OFFICE ALSO REPORTED THIS FACT, AND A COPY OF THAT REPORT WAS POUCHED TO USBER AND THE DEPARTMENT (EUR/CE) ON NOVEMBER 17, 1977. THE ONLY EXPLANATION WE HAVE FOR AMREHN'S COMMENTS IS THAT THE BUNDESTAG DELEGATION APPARENTLY PROPOSED AN APPROACH WHICH DID DISCUSS THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE BERLIN MEMBERS OF THE FRG DELEGATION AND THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT. THE FOREIGN OFFICE DISAGREED WITH THIS APPROACH AS DID THE BONN GROUP, BUT THE BUNDESTAG DELEGATION TOOK IT NONETHELESS. IT APPEARS THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S CABLE DID NOT REACH THE DELEGATION IN TIME, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO ASSURANCE THE DELEGATION WOULD HAVE FOLLOWED THE RECOMMENDATION. COPIES OF THE BUNDESTAG DELEGATION'S STATEMENT AND OTHER MATERIAL PROVIDED BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO THE BONN GROUP WERE POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT (EUR/CE) AND USBER ON OCTOBER 7, 1977.

3. ALTHOUGH WE HOPE THAT THE US DELEGATION AND OTHERS WILL BASE THEIR REJECTION OF SOVIET AND GDR ATTACKS ON THE IPU STATUTES, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO BRIEF THE US REPS ON THE BACKGROUND TO THE EASTERN PROTESTS AND THE ALLIED LEGAL POSITION ON THE RIGHT
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OF THE BERLIN DELEGATES TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE FRG DELEGATION.
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